



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

WTH

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/825,035 | 04/15/2004 | Devon L. Strawn | MSFT-3488/307555.01 | 7412 |

41505 7590 04/17/2007
WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP (MICROSOFT CORPORATION)
CIRA CENTRE, 12TH FLOOR
2929 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104-2891

EXAMINER

BROOME, SAID A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2628

| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|--|------------|---------------|
| 3 MONTHS | 04/17/2007 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/825,035 | STRAWN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Said Broome | 2628 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 13-16 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 13-16 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/14/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to an amendment filed 1/31/2007.
2. Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18 have been amended by the applicant.
3. Claims 6, 8-12, 17 and 19-31 have been cancelled by the applicant.
4. Claims 2-5 and 14-16 are original.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, 7, 13-16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Skyrme (*"Full Product Review Adobe LiveMotion"*).

Regarding claims 1 and 13, Skyrme describes a method of keyframing an object in section 2 page 1 second paragraph line 1 ("Placing an object creates a keyframe at that point and a certain length of display is shown on the timeline..."), and the method is illustrated to be comprised in a computer system having a graphical user interface that is therefore displayed by a display device, as shown in Figure 1 of section 1 on page 2. Skyrme also describes identifying at least one property, as shown in Figure 1 of section 1 on page 2, and a time for the object as described in section 1 page 1 sixth paragraph lines 3-6 ("...when you place an object on the stage...the object transform drop down menu for that object is opened and the Position clock

face is clicked...just put a tick in the little box that has opened.“). Skyrme also describes creating a first compound key frame at the time object in section 2 page 1 second paragraph line 1 (“Placing an object creates a keyframe at that point and a certain length of display is shown on the timeline as a pink line with a knob at each end.“). Skyrme also describes receiving a second time for the object and creating a second compound key frame at the second time in section 2 page 2 second paragraph lines 4-5 (“...you can insert a new keyframe by placing the Current Time Marker at a particular point...“), where it is described that a second new keyframe may be inserted. Skyrme illustrates enabling a change to the at least one property prior to creating the second compound key frame, in Figure 1 on page 2 of section 1 and in Figures 1 and 2 on page 2 of section 2, where the play head(vertical line) may be moved about the keyframe interface independently of the keyframes themselves to indicate the time at which to apply a property, such as position, rotation, etc. that is indicated with a white diamond icon, therefore a user would be capable of placing the play head after a first keyframe, but prior to creation of a second keyframe, to enable a property or action to be applied to the second keyframe, where the second compound key frame incorporates the change to the property once the keyframes are animated as described in section 2 page 2 third paragraph lines 1-4 (“If you want to apply a change to the object you can now move forward in the timeline...When played back, the object should tween between the first and second keyframe giving a smooth action.”).

Regarding claims 2 and 14, Skyrme describes receiving additional times for the object and creating associated compound key frames at each of the additional times in section 2 page 2 second paragraph lines 4-5 (“Now you can insert a new keyframe by placing the Current Time Marker at a particular point...“) and in the third paragraph lines 2-3 (“The action can be applied

by the menu box to the right of the desktop, and is just a matter of selecting the filter and then use sliders or the round symbol to apply the desired effect.”).

Regarding claims 3 and 15, Skyrme describes receiving the second time for the object comprises moving a playhead to a position on a timeline in a user interface, the position corresponding to the second time in section 2 page 1 second paragraph line 1 (“Placing an object creates a keyframe at that point and a certain length of display is shown on the timeline as a pink line with a knob at each end.”) and in section 2 page 2 second paragraph lines 4-5 (“Now you can insert a new keyframe by placing the Current Time Marker at a particular point...”).

Regarding claims 4 and 16, Skyrme illustrates entering an animate mode prior to creating the first compound key frame in Figure 1 of section 1 where a user interface is shown that comprises an animation mode that is initialized to enable the user to enter in keyframes, in which after user input timelines are displayed as shown in the Figure.

Regarding claim 5, Skyrme illustrates that each of the first and second compound key frames represents the state of the at least one property on the object at the associated time in Figure 1 of section 1, where it is shown that properties are represented as diamond icons.

Regarding claims 7 and 18, Skyrme describes creating an attribute key frame responsive to the received change to the at least one property if no attribute key frame exists for the at least one property at the time the received change is received, and changing an existing attribute key frame responsive to the received change to the at least one property if the existing attribute key frame exists at the time the received change is received in section 1 page 1 sixth paragraph lines 3-7 (“By dragging your image around on stage, tweens are automatically inserted between keyframes...This only happens if the object transform drop down menu for that object is

Art Unit: 2628

opened..."), where it is described that applied property for the keyframes is adjusted from the transform drop down menu, and the resultant change is represented on the user interface as shown in Figure 1 of section 1 and in Figure 2 of section 2.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/31/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Due to the cancellation of claims 19-24, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph has been withdrawn.

The applicant argues the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection of claims 1-12 and 19-24. Due to the cancellation of claims 19-24, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection of claims 19-24, has been withdrawn. The 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection of claims 1-5 and 7 has been withdrawn with respect to the current interpretation of 35 U.S.C. 101, in which as long as a practical application is claimed or disclosed, the claims are statutory.

The applicant argues that the references Skyrme used in the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of claims 1 and 13 does not teach receiving a change to the at least one property prior to creating the second compound key frame, the second compound keyframe incorporating the change to the at least one property. The examiner maintains the rejection because Skyrme illustrates enabling a change to the at least one property prior to creating the second compound key frame, in Figure 1 on page 2 of section 1 and in Figures 1 and 2 on page 2 of section 2, where the play head(vertical line) may be moved about the keyframe interface independently of the keyframes themselves to indicate the time at which to apply a property, such as position, rotation, etc. that is

Art Unit: 2628

indicated with a white diamond icon, therefore a user would be capable of placing the play head after a first keyframe, but prior to creation of a second keyframe, to enable a property or action to be applied to the second keyframe, where the second compound key frame incorporates the change to the property as described in section 2 page 2 third paragraph lines 1-4 ("If you want to apply a change to the object you can now move forward in the timeline...When played back, the object should tween between the first and second keyframe giving a smooth action.").

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Said Broome whose telephone number is (571)272-2931. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5pm.

Art Unit: 2628

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ulka Chauhan can be reached on (571)272-7782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

S. Broome
4/12/07 SB


Ulka Chauhan

Supervisory Patent Examiner